(g) Details showing total workers associated with the coir industry, State-wise are as under:

| Sl.No. | Name of State | Employment |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Kerala | 4,33,000 |
| 2. | Tamil Nadu | 72,840 |
| 3. | Karnataka | 18,000 |
| 4. | Andhra Pradesh | 41,400 |
| 5. | Orissa | 6,520 |
| 6. | Other States | 14,900 |
| | TOTAL: | 5,86,660 |

**Coverage of mobile telephone services in Uttaranchal**

†907. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the fact that coverage of the mobile telephone service is very limited and their standard is very poor in most of the districts of Uttaranchal State;

(b) whether there is any proposal to install new towers to improve the standard of mobile telephone services and to expand their coverage in the State; and

(c) if so, the number of towers to be installed in the State location district-wise and by when, this work would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, Cellular Mobile Service Providers have already covered all the District Headquarters of Uttaranchal State and they are providing mobile telephone service in the area covered by them within standards set by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Cellular Mobile Operators have planned to cover additional towns within the current financial year. The coverage of more and more area is a continuous process and it depends upon the commercial viability. As such exact number of additional towers to be installed in the Uttaranchal State cannot be specified at this stage.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.